

Appl. No. 09/837,084
Amdt. dated December 19, 2003
Reply to June 19, 2003 Office Action

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed June 19, 2003, please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.

Appl. No. 09/837,084
Amdt. dated December 19, 2003
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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A flexible, thermoformable packaging film laminate including:

an outer layer ~~of~~ comprising a biaxially oriented polyester film;

~~an image positioned~~ a layer of ink on a surface of said outer layer;

an adhesive layer adjacent said layer of ink; and

a flexible, polyamide containing, coextruded film adhered to said adhesive layer
~~polyester layer so as to cover and protect said image, said flexible, polyamide~~
containing, coextruded film including an exterior polyolefin layer opposite said
biaxially oriented polyester film, wherein said polyolefin layer is an exterior surface
layer of said laminate.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently amended) A flexible, thermoformable packaging film laminate as in claim 1 in which said flexible, polyamide containing coextruded film includes a semi-crystalline polyamide layer.

Appl. No. 09/837,084
Amdt. dated December 19, 2003
Reply to June 19, 2003 Office Action

4. (Currently Amended) A flexible, thermoformable packaging film laminate as in claim 1 in which said flexible, polyamide containing, coextruded film includes a layer comprising a blend of a semi-crystalline polyamide and an amorphous polyamide.

5. (Currently Amended) A flexible, thermoformable packaging film laminate as in claim 1 in which said flexible, polyamide containing, coextruded film comprises an oxygen barrier layer sandwiched between a first polyamide layer and a second polyamide layer.

6. (Currently Amended) A flexible, thermoformable packaging film laminate as in claim 5 in which said oxygen barrier layer is comprised of an ethylene vinyl alcohol copolymer.

7. (Cancelled).

8. (Currently Amended) A flexible, thermoformable packaging film laminate as in claim 1 ~~7 including~~ wherein said flexible polyamide containing coextruded film includes a first an internal polyolefin layer adhered to said layer of adhesive ~~and said flexible, polyamide containing, coextruded film disposed adjacent said first polyolefin layer.~~

9. (Currently Amended) A flexible, thermoformable packaging film laminate as in claim 8 ~~including~~ wherein said flexible polyamide containing coextruded film includes a first tie layer disposed ~~between~~ adjacent said ~~first internal~~ polyolefin layer ~~and said flexible, polyamide containing, coextruded film.~~

10. (Currently Amended) A flexible, thermoformable packaging film laminate as in claim 9 in which said flexible polyamide containing coextruded film comprises a first polyamide layer adhered to said first tie layer.

11. (Currently Amended) A flexible, thermoformable packaging film laminate as in claim 10 in which said flexible, polyamide containing, coextruded film includes an oxygen barrier layer adhered to said first polyamide layer.

12. (Currently Amended) A flexible, thermoformable packaging film laminate as in claim 11 in which said flexible, polyamide containing, coextruded film includes a second polyamide layer adhered to said oxygen barrier layer on the side opposite said first polyamide layer.

13. (Currently Amended) A flexible, thermoformable packaging film laminate as in claim 12 including a second tie layer adhered to said second polyamide layer.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) A flexible, thermoformable packaging film laminate having at least three layers comprising:

Appl. No. 09/837,084
Amdt. dated December 19, 2003
Reply to June 19, 2003 Office Action

an outer layer comprising a biaxially oriented polyester film having an outer surface and an inner surface;

~~an image positioned~~ a layer of ink on a said inner surface of said biaxially oriented polyester film; and,

a flexible, polyamide containing, coextruded film adhered to said biaxially oriented polyester film, said flexible, polyamide containing, coextruded film comprising an exterior polyolefin layer opposite said biaxially oriented polyester film, wherein said exterior polyolefin layer is an exterior surface layer of said laminate.

16. (Currently Amended) A flexible, thermoformable packaging film laminate according to claim 15, wherein said ~~image~~ layer of ink ~~is positioned~~ on said inner surface of said biaxially oriented polyester film comprises printed indicia, and said flexible, polyamide containing, coextruded film is adhered to said printed indicia ~~inner surface so as to cover and protect said image.~~

17. (Currently Amended) A flexible, thermoformable packaging film laminate according to claim 15, wherein said flexible, polyamide containing, coextruded film comprises a semi crystalline polyamide layer.

18. (Currently Amended) A flexible, thermoformable packaging film laminate according to claim 15, wherein said flexible, polyamide containing, coextruded film

includes at least one layer comprising a blend of a semi-crystalline polyamide and an amorphous polyamide.

19. (Currently Amended) A flexible, thermoformable packaging film laminate according to claim 15, wherein said flexible, polyamide containing, coextruded film comprises a three-layer film including a first polyamide layer, a second polyamide layer and an oxygen barrier layer disposed between said first and second polyamide layers.

20. (Currently Amended) A flexible, thermoformable packaging film laminate comprising:

an outer layer of biaxially oriented polyester film having an outer surface and an inner surface;

~~an image~~ a layer of ink disposed on said inner surface;

an adhesive layer positioned to overlie said ~~image~~ layer of ink;

a first polyolefin layer adhered to said adhesive layer;

a first tie layer adjacent said first polyolefin layer;

a first polyamide layer adjacent said first tie layer;

an oxygen barrier layer adjacent said first polyamide layer;

a second polyamide layer adjacent said oxygen barrier layer;

a second tie layer adjacent said second polyamide layer; and,

a second polyolefin layer adjacent said second tie layer;

Appl. No. 09/837,084
Amdt. dated December 19, 2003
Reply to June 19, 2003 Office Action

wherein said first polyolefin, said first tie layer, said first polyamide layer, said oxygen barrier layer, said second polyamide layer, said second tie layer and said second polyolefin layer comprise a coextruded film, and wherein said second polyolefin layer is an exterior surface layer of said laminate.